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**San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board**

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT  
AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT**

**Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin  
to Incorporate Site-Specific Water Effect Ratios into Total Maximum Daily Loads  
for Copper and Zinc in Chollas Creek**

**Background**

The current Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) includes Chollas Creek Metals Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) that went into effect on October 22, 2008. Due to limited site-specific data during Chollas Creek Metals TMDLs development, a default water effect ratio (WER) value of 1 was used to calculate numeric targets for metals. Since that time, site-specific data has been collected and the equations expressing the proposed numeric targets for copper and zinc have been revised to include site-specific WER values that take into account the physical and chemical characteristics of the water in Chollas Creek. This approach is consistent with USEPA's water quality criteria for toxic pollutants in inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries; the California Toxics Rule (40 CFR 131.38). If adopted, the proposed Basin Plan amendment would establish site-specific WER values. This would result in an increase in numeric targets for copper and zinc, which are calculated using water hardness-dependent formulas.

**Document Availability**

The Tentative Order is available for review on the San Diego Water Board web site: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml)  
The San Diego Water Board will receive written comments on the Tentative Order prior to considering its adoption at the December 2016 Board meeting.

**Comment Period**

Public input is strongly encouraged. The San Diego Water Board will accept public comments over a 30-day period, until 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2016, and will respond to comments before staff presents Tentative Resolution No. R9-2016-0148 to the San Diego Water Board to consider for adoption. Written comments should be submitted in a text searchable pdf format and sent to Melissa Valdovinos via email at [Melissa.Valdovinos@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Melissa.Valdovinos@waterboards.ca.gov).

**Additional Information**

To receive future updates by email, subscribe to the "**Basin Planning Issues**" email list on our Email Subscriptions web page. For additional information, please contact Melissa Valdovinos at (619) 521-8039 or at [Melissa.Valdovinos@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Melissa.Valdovinos@waterboards.ca.gov).